

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are pending. An Office Action mailed July 1, 2005 objected to Claims 3, 4, and 9, rejected Claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 and Claims 1, 2, 5, and 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103, suggested a claim for the purpose of an interference, and allowed Claims 8, and 10-14. By way of this amendment, Applicant hereby cancels Claim 1, amends Claims 2, 3, and 5-9, and adds new Claims 15 and 16. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.111, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the application.

OBJECTION OF CLAIM 9 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

Applicant has amended Claim 9 based on the noted objection.

REJECTION OF CLAIM 7 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

Applicant has amended Claim 7 based on the noted rejection.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Office Action rejected Claims 1, 2, 5, and 6 as being unpatentable over Stains.

Applicant has canceled Claim 1 and amended Claims 2, 5, and 6 to depend from amended independent Claim 3. Claim 3 was objected to for depending from a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim. Therefore, Applicant submits that Claims 2-7 are now allowable over the cited reference.

SUGGESTED CLAIM

Applicant submits new Claim 16 that is identical to the Suggested Claim put forth in the Office Action for the purpose of an interference.

NEW CLAIM 15

Applicant hereby submits new dependent Claim 15. No new matter has been added.


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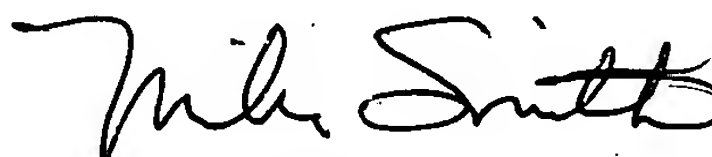

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CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that all of the claims of the pending application are now in condition for allowance over the cited reference. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections, allowance, and early passage through issuance. If the Examiner has any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's agent listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

BLACK LOWE & GRAHAM^{PLLC}



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MAIL CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this communication is being deposited with the United States Postal Service via first class mail under 37 C.F.R. § 1.08 on the date indicated below addressed to: MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

8/1/05

Date of Deposit


Michelle J. Carman


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